

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1. A system for back ordering out of stock products,  
2 the system comprising:

3           a host system for receiving an order for a product from  
4 a user, determining whether inventory for said product  
5 satisfies said order, notifying said user if said inventory  
6 for said product does not satisfy said order, receiving a  
7 back order request from said user to back order said product  
8 if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said  
9 order, determining an amount of said product for meeting  
10 said back order request, acquiring said amount and updating  
11 said inventory, notifying said user that said back order  
12 request has been satisfied and receiving a delivery request  
13 from said user to deliver said product;

14           a network coupled to said host system; and

15           a database coupled to said host system for storing data  
16 relating to said back ordering out of stock products.

1           2. The system of claim 1, further including:

2           a user system coupled to said network; and

3           said user system accessing said host system via said  
4 network.

1           3. The system of claim 1, wherein said acquiring said  
2 amount and updating said inventory includes said host  
3 system:

4           requesting said amount form a supplier; and  
5           receiving a request from said supplier to add said  
6 amount to said inventory.

1           4. The system of claim 1, further including said host  
2 system:

3           receiving a time period request from said user for  
4 setting a time that said back order request is to remain in  
5 effect;

6           determining whether said time period request has  
7 expired; and

8           deleting said back order request if said time period  
9 request has expired.

1           5. The system of claim 1, further including said host  
2 system:

3           notifying said user that said back order request will  
4 remain on hold for a predetermined time;

5           determining whether said predetermined time has  
6 expired; and

7           deleting said back order request if said predetermined  
8 time has expired.

1           6. The system of claim 1, wherein said delivery  
2 request includes said host system:  
3           sending a back order confirmation request to said user;  
4           receiving a back order confirmation; and  
5           reducing said inventory data to reflect said back order  
6 confirmation.

1           7. A system for back ordering out of stock products,  
2 the system comprising:  
3           a host system for receiving an order for a product from  
4 a user, determining whether inventory for said product  
5 satisfies said order, notifying said user if said inventory  
6 for said product does not satisfy said order, receiving a  
7 back order request from said user to back order said product  
8 if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said  
9 order, sending a supplier request to a supplier for  
10 fulfilling said back order request, receiving an inventory  
11 update request from said supplier, wherein said inventory  
12 update request includes an amount of said product for  
13 fulfilling said back order request, notifying said user that  
14 said back order request has been satisfied and receiving a  
15 delivery request from said user to deliver said product;  
16           a network coupled to said host system; and  
17           a database coupled to said host system for storing data  
18 relating to said back ordering out of stock products.

1           8. The system of claim 7, further including said host  
2 system:

3           receiving a time period request from said user for  
4 setting a time that said back order request is to remain in  
5 effect;

6           determining whether said time period request has  
7 expired; and

8           deleting said back order request if said time period  
9 request has expired.

1           9. The system of claim 7, further including said host  
2 system:

3           notifying said user that said back order request will  
4 remain on hold for a predetermined time;

5           determining whether said predetermined time has  
6 expired; and

7           deleting said back order request if said predetermined  
8 time has expired.

1           10. The system of claim 7 wherein said delivery  
2 request includes said host system:

3           sending a back order confirmation request to said user;

4           receiving a back order confirmation; and

5           reducing said inventory data to reflect said back order  
6 confirmation.

1           11. A method for back ordering out of stock products,  
2 the method comprising:  
3           receiving an order for a product from a user;  
4           determining whether inventory for said product  
5 satisfies said order;  
6           notifying said user if said inventory for said product  
7 does not satisfy said order;  
8           receiving a back order request from said user to back  
9 order said product if said inventory for said product does  
10 not satisfy said order;  
11           determining an amount of said product for meeting said  
12 back order request;  
13           acquiring said amount and updating said inventory;  
14           notifying said user that said back order request has  
15 been satisfied; and  
16           receiving a delivery request from said user to deliver  
17 said product.

1           12. The method of claim 11, wherein said acquiring  
2 said amount and updating said inventory includes:  
3           requesting said amount from a supplier; and  
4           receiving a request from said supplier to add said  
5 amount to said inventory.

1           13. The method of claim 11, further including:  
2           receiving a time period request from said user for  
3           setting a time that said back order request is to remain in  
4           effect;  
5           determining whether said time period request has  
6           expired; and  
7           deleting said back order request if said time period  
8           request has expired.

1           14. The method of claim 11, further including:  
2           notifying said user that said back order request will  
3           remain on hold for a predetermined time;  
4           determining whether said predetermined time has  
5           expired; and  
6           deleting said back order request if said predetermined  
7           time has expired.

1           15. The method of claim 11, wherein said delivery  
2           request includes:  
3           sending a back order confirmation request to said user;  
4           receiving a back order confirmation; and  
5           reducing said inventory data to reflect said back order  
6           confirmation.

1           16. A method for back ordering out of stock products,  
2 the method comprising:  
3           receiving an order for a product from a user;  
4           determining whether inventory for said product  
5 satisfies said order;  
6           notifying said user if said inventory for said product  
7 does not satisfy said order;  
8           receiving a back order request from said user to back  
9 order said product if said inventory for said product does  
10 not satisfy said order;  
11           sending a supplier request to a supplier for fulfilling  
12 said back order request;  
13           receiving an inventory update request from said  
14 supplier, wherein said inventory update request includes an  
15 amount of said product for fulfilling said back order  
16 request;  
17           notifying said user that said back order request has  
18 been satisfied; and  
19           receiving a delivery request from said user to deliver  
20 said product.

1           17. The method of claim 16, further including:  
2           receiving a time period request from said user for  
3 setting a time that said back order request is to remain in  
4 effect;  
5           determining whether said time period request has  
6 expired; and  
7           deleting said back order request if said time period  
8 request has expired.

1 18. The method of claim 16, further including:  
2 notifying said user that said back order request will  
3 remain on hold for a predetermined time;  
4 determining whether said predetermined time has  
5 expired; and  
6 deleting said back order request if said predetermined  
7 time has expired.

1 19. The method of claim 16, wherein said delivery  
2 request includes:  
3 sending a back order confirmation request to said user;  
4 receiving a back order confirmation; and  
5 reducing said inventory data to reflect said back order  
6 confirmation.  
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1           20. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable  
2 computer program code for back ordering out of stock  
3 products, the storage medium including instructions for  
4 causing a processor to implement a method comprising:  
5           receiving an order for a product from a user;  
6           determining whether inventory for said product  
7 satisfies said order;  
8           notifying said user if said inventory for said product  
9 does not satisfy said order;  
10          receiving a back order request from said user to back  
11 order said product if said inventory for said product does  
12 not satisfy said order;  
13          determining an amount of said product for meeting said  
14 back order request;  
15          acquiring said amount and updating said inventory;  
16          notifying said user that said back order request has  
17 been satisfied; and  
18          receiving a delivery request from said user to deliver  
19 said product.

1           21. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable  
2 computer program code for back ordering out of stock  
3 products, the storage medium including instructions for  
4 causing a processor to implement a method comprising:  
5           receiving an order for a product from a user;  
6           determining whether inventory for said product  
7 satisfies said order;  
8           notifying said user if said inventory for said product  
9 does not satisfy said order;  
10          receiving a back order request from said user to back  
11 order said product if said inventory for said product does  
12 not satisfy said order;  
13          sending a supplier request to a supplier for fulfilling  
14 said back order request;  
15          receiving an inventory update request from said  
16 supplier, wherein said inventory update request includes an  
17 amount of said product for fulfilling said back order  
18 request;  
19          notifying said user that said back order request has  
20 been satisfied; and  
21          receiving a delivery request from said user to deliver  
22 said product.